Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 03441 182121Z ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 ICAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PA-01 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 H-01 SP-02 /058 W

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O 182108Z AUG 78 FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9353

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SHUM, HA

SUBJECT: IAHRC VISIT TO HAITI

- 1. VISIT OF IAHRC HAS SO FAR BEEN PLAYED STRAIGHT BY GOH. PRIOR TO ARRIVAL, MEDIA REPORTED FREQUENTLY (USING USICA AND OTHER MATERIAL) ON UPCOMING VISIT AND CITED CONVENTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. IT ALSO CARRIED IAHRC ADVICE THAT IT WOULD LOOK DIMLY ON ANY REPRISALS AGAINST PEOPLE IT INTERVIEWED. BY THE TIME DR. GGUILAR ARRIVED AUGUST 16, THE COUNTRY HAD BEEN SATURATED BY REPORTS OF WHAT THE IAHRC WAS AND WHAT IT PLANNED TO DO IN HAITI.
- 2. DR. AGUILAR HELD PRESS CONFERENCE ON ARRIVAL AND HE AND OTHER MEMBERS OF IAHRC SUBSEQUENTLY MET WITH INTERIOR MINISTER JEANTY AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. THEY ARE TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT AUGUST 18.
- 3. VISIT HAS GOTTEN OFF TO GOOD START. BECAUSE THERE IS FEELING AMONG CRITICS OF GOVERNMENT THAT IAHRC IS SIMPLY HERE TO CONFIRM GOH HUMAN RIGHTS ACHIEVEMENTS HOWEVER, THEY MAY BE SLOW IN TAKING ADVANTAGE OF IAHRC VISIT.

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Message Attributes

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